ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An implantable device particularly useful for implantation in the common carotid artery at its bifurcation with the internal carotid artery and the external carotid artery for reducing the risk of a stroke, includes a base element for anchoring the device in the artery, and a deflector element for covering the inlet of the internal carotid artery. The deflector element is formed with openings of a size and configuration to deflect emboli in the blood to the external carotid artery without blocking blood flow through the external or internal carotid arteries. The deflector element is attached to a supporting portion of the base element to produce a composite construction. In one described embodiment, the base element is a coil having two opposing ends which overlap to permit expansion for deployment in the artery, and in a second described embodiment the base element is a tube expandable for deployment in the artery.